

Amendments to the Claims:

A clean version of the entire set of pending claims, including amendments to the claims, is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121(c)(3). This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Method for the~~ A method of plasma-nitriding of precipitation-hardenable stainless steels or maraging steels, characterized in that maraging steel, wherein the maraging steel is a stainless maraging steel, and the plasma-nitriding of the stainless maraging steel is carried out at a temperature below 500°C.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to~~ The method of claim 1, characterized in that stainless steel products, like shaver parts, machine parts, and cutting tools, can be produced in required dimensions, ~~further comprising forming the stainless maraging steel into a shaver part~~ before the plasma-nitriding is carried out.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to~~ The method of claim 1, characterized in that wherein the plasma-nitriding is carried out simultaneously with or consecutively to precipitation-hardening.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to~~ The method of claim [[1]]3, characterized in that wherein at least one of the plasma-nitriding and/or and the precipitation-hardening is carried out at a temperature ~~chosen to lie between 300° and 500°C, preferably from 370 to 380°C, more preferably 375°C.~~

5-7. (Canceled)

8. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the at least one of the plasma-nitriding and the precipitation-hardening is carried out at a temperature between 370°C and 380°C.

9. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the at least one of the plasma-nitriding and the precipitation-hardening is carried out at a temperature of 375°C.

10. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the plasma-nitriding is carried out at a temperature between 300°C and 500°C.

11. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the plasma-nitriding is carried out at a temperature between 370°C and 380°C.

12. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the plasma-nitriding is carried out at a temperature of 375°C.

13. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising forming the stainless maraging steel into a cutting tool before the plasma-nitriding is carried out.